

Pending Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (canceled)
 2. (currently amended) A An isolated and purified recombinant V antigen protein free of other proteins encoded by a the plasmid ~~having the construct of~~ pPAV13 as shown in Figure 1 ~~with a fusion protein replacing 67 N-terminal amino acids.~~
 3. (currently amended) A An isolated and purified recombinant ~~truncated~~ V antigen protein lacking the first free of other proteins produced by recombinant techniques with a fusion protein replacing 67 N-terminal amino acids of native V antigen and which is for inducing a protective anti V antigen antibody.
 4. (canceled)
 5. (canceled)
 6. (canceled)
 7. (canceled)
 8. (currently amended) A The isolated and purified recombinant V antigen protein free of other proteins of claim 2, wherein the encoded by a plasmid ~~prepared by recombinant techniques encoding proteins controlling the effects of *Y. pestis* and inducing protective immunity, the~~ plasmid ~~comprising~~ comprises low calcium response regions V and H and the structural gene for staphylococcal protein A.
 9. (canceled)
- Claims 10. -38. (canceled)